UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,745,899 B1
APPLICATION NO. : 10/083426
DATED : June 8, 2004
INVENTOR(S) : David J. Barton

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 8, lines 5-42, delete:

"Referring to FIGS. 4 and 5, a payout 120 is shown. Payout 120 includes inner and outer rings 60 and 62 which function as described above and further includes floating ring 122. Floating ring 122 is similar to floating ring 90 in that it includes a bottom 124 which rests on inner ring top 66 and outer ring top 82 and a top 126 which is opposite to and spaced from bottom 124. Floating ring 122 further includes an inner edge 128 and an oppositely facing outer edge 130. Furthermore, floating ring 122 has a substantially rectangular cross-sectional configuration with a thickness 132 and a width 134. However, floating ring 122 is a different size than floating ring 90 and therefore, wire 52 passes about floating ring outer edge 130 as it is unwound from wire coil 16 through gap G1. More particularly, wire 52 engages floating ring 122 at an engagement point 136 which urges ring portion 137 inwardly towards inner core 14. The width 134 of ring 122 is such that as the ring engages inner core surface 40, outer edge 130 thereof is positioned above and between outer edge 70 of ring 60 and inner edge 80 of ring 62, and over gap G1. Thus, outer edge 130 of ring 122 and inner edge 80 of ring 62 define a restricted opening 138 which like opening 106 is crescent shaped and extends about one-half the circumference of the gap G1. The diameters of inner edge 128 and outer edge 130, of ring 122 are such that the ring covers an increasing portion of gap G1 moving from ring portion 137 toward ring portion 139 when engagement point 136 is at ring portion 137. Accordingly, wire 52 can only pass through opening 138. As wire 52 is unwound form wire coil 16, the engagement point 136 and opening 138 move clockwise about the drum axis 24 toward ring portion 139 and back again toward ring portion 137 for each convolution of wire. Engagement of wire 52 with edge 130 of ring 122 results in the floating ring moving eccentrically relative to inner and outer rings 60 and 62 and axis 24. This creates tension in wire 52. Furthermore, during payout wire 52 engages floating ring edge 130 along with one or the other of inner ring edge 70 and outer ring edge 80 thereby further controlling the payout the of wire."

Column 9, between lines 13 and 14, insert:

--Referring to FIGS. 6 and 7, a payout 150 is shown which includes a single stationary ring 152 and a floating ring 154. Since upward springing of the convolutions is most prevalent at the outer portions of wire coil top 54, near drum body 22, stationary ring 152 is positioned adjacent to drum surface 26. In this respect, stationary ring 152 has an outer edge 156 adjacent to drum surface 26 and an oppositely facing inner edge 158 spaced from inner core surface 40, thereby producing gap G2 therebetween. Ring 152 further includes a bottom 160 juxtaposed wire coil top 54 and an oppositely facing top 162. Ring 152 is laterally stationary relative to drum body 22 and essentially moves

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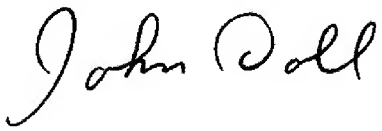
vertically only, not horizontally. Stationary ring 152 has a rectangular cross-sectional configuration having a thickness 164 and a width 166. Since only one stationary ring is utilized, ring width 166 is greater than that of the rings discussed in previous embodiments. Floating ring 154 has a bottom 170 which rests on ring top 162 and further includes an outer edge 172, an inner edge 174 and a top 176. Inner edge 174 includes an upwardly curved portion 178 having a rounded shoulder 180. Shoulder 180 reduces the chances of wire 52 being scarred or distorted by its engagement with floating ring 154. As with the embodiments discussed above, wire 52 passes through gap G2 and an opening 184 between core 14 and inner edge 174 and moves about drum axis 24 as it is unwound from wire coil 16. Wire 52 engages floating ring 154 at engagement point 182 which moves about ring edge 174 as wire 52 is unwound. The engagement between wire 52 and ring edge 174 causes the floating ring to move outwardly to the left in FIGS. 6 and 7 until it engages drum surface 26 thus forming the opening 184 which in this embodiment is crescent shaped and extends about three-quarters the circumference of gap G2. Floating ring 154 has a thickness 186 and a width 188. Width 188 is such that when floating ring 154 is urged outwardly by wire 52 to engage drum surface 26, inner edge 174 of the ring is positioned inwardly of stationary ring edge 158 and spaced from inner core surface 40 and above and generally centrally of gap G2. Furthermore, ring width 188 is greater than the width of gap G2 so that the dimensions of opening 184 are minimized.--

Signed and Sealed this

Seventh Day of July, 2009



JOHN DOLL
Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office